

What is a Clotted or Layered Unsatisfactory Specimen?

*An **unsatisfactory specimen** is one that is poor quality in which the Newborn Screening adequacy may be affected.*

What are the reasons a specimen is deemed unsatisfactory?

- Quantity Insufficient (QNS)
- * **Clotted or Layered**
- Scratched or Abraded
- Contaminated
- Specimen Too Old
- Damaged in Transit
- Collected on an Expired Card
- Patient Too Old

What does Layered or Clotted mean?

- Blood drops are stacked on top of one another.
- A blood clot formed.

How to prevent collecting a Layered or Clotted specimen:

- Allow one large drop to form and fall on pre-printed circle.
- Ensure blood soaks through to opposite side.
- Blood drops should NOT touch one another.
- Dry card flat with blood application side facing up!
- Avoid using devices like capillary tubes.

What causes Layering or Clotting?

- Multiple drops are applied to the same pre-printed circle.
- Trying to fill the circle with multiple drops
- Possible delay in application of blood drop which resulted in a clot

What does a Layered or Clotted specimen look like?

Multiple drops applied to the same pre-printed circle.

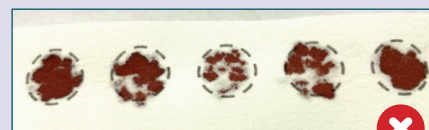
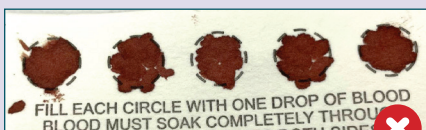
Clotted (Front)



Layered (Front)



Layered (Back)

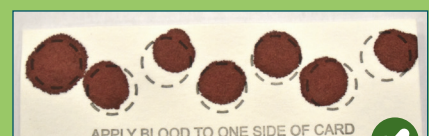


Examples of Satisfactory Specimens

Front



Front



Questions or concerns?

Contact the Newborn Screening Quality Improvement team at: nbsqi@dph.sc.gov



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